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DOCUMENT NO. 2  
REF ID: A66043

4 May 1960

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TURKEY

DATE 1-29-80

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- I. Demonstrators in Istanbul, Ankara and Izmir have been almost exclusively students.
  - A. General public remained apathetic but students received some direct support from lawyers and faculty members. Other intellectuals have long opposed drift toward authoritarianism but appear not to have participated in rioting.
  - B. Local Communists believed not actively involved, but radio broadcasts from bloc called for general uprising.
- II. Demonstrators concentrated abuse on Premier Menderes.
  - A. Hatred of police, but not of army, also evident.
  - B. No reports of anti-Americanism in rioting.
- III. Opposition Republican Peoples Party (RPP) has denied government's charge it incited riots and students also deny RPP leadership. Recent acts of RPP deputies, however, spurred government into more repressive acts.
  - A. Some local RPP leaders reported arrested but no major figure detained.
    - 1. RPP quiet at present but has plans to go underground if government seeks to proscribe party.
    - 2. Top RPP leaders are apprehensive over possible future government moves and <sup>have explored possibility of</sup> ~~may seek~~ asylum in US embassy.
- IV. Governing Democratic Party (DP) is reportedly split.
  - A. Unorganized group of some 130 of 409 DP deputies reportedly oppose repressive acts of government.

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1. This group <sup>could possibly</sup> ~~might~~ eventually topple government by joining forces with RPP.

V. Future unclear but political repercussions from riots will be long-lasting.

- A. Demonstrations appear to be subsiding with conclusion of NATO meeting in Istanbul on 4 May, but student morale high and new demonstrations possible.
- B. Government will continue attempt label RPP as anti-American and RPP will continue seek encouragement from US.
- C. Greatest danger stems from possible impulsive and vindictive actions of Menderes or inflammatory acts of student leaders.

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